

WMAC Meeting Minutes, May 18, 2017

Attendees: David Crosby - Chair, Mark Altabet, Anne Carney, David Hearne, Lealdon Langley, Chris Pimentel

Guest: Eric Hooper, Superintendent - Sharon DPW

0. Minutes from the April 27, 2017 meeting were approved.

1. Eric Hooper discussed the water rate presentation that Selectman Roach had asked the committee to create for Sharon Cable TV. He is working with Nancy Fyler, cable tv personnel and high school students to produce an animated power point presentation. Eric said that they are actually working on two power point presentations. One will explain the progressive rate structure and a second one will answer frequently asked questions regarding water usage. Two drafts were handed out and Eric will send out the updates to the committee.

2. Lead pipes and lead levels at the water fountains in the schools was discussed. Due to the problems in Flint Michigan, the EPA said that states needed to assess the water quality in schools. DEP drew samples on a Saturday at all of the schools and found that some fountains and faucets exceeded the recommended levels in all of the schools. 558 samples were taken and 14 exceeded the recommended level of lead at first flush. The main problems are the old water bubblers. The acceptable solution is to make sure the water is run before school each morning and this will take care of the problem. The schools can implement a flushing protocol but the long term solution is to swap out all of the old plumbing.

3. David Hearne asked Eric if it was possible to take measurements at Car Works Pond and Main St. to get a good reading on elevation and discharge of Lake Massapoag. Discussion concluded that there were several factors involved but it might be possible.

4. Eric gave his water report and stated that nitrate at well #4 is up but still well below the 5 mg/l trigger for action. Pumping for the year is down and pumping for the month at 28,357,000 gallons is an historic low number. The projected total for the year at about 400,000,000 gallons is well below the historic average and unaccounted for water (UAW) is very low at about 1%. At this time the yearly revenue is projected at \$3,500,000 and this is about \$100,000 below the fiscal year 2017 budget. There is a \$200,000 budget reserve but the question arose about whether the shortfall had to come out of the reserve or from retained earnings. Construction to put a fiberglass lining in pipes on Atlas and Belcher streets is underway. Flushing is ongoing and notices are on the Town website concerning the streets being done on a particular day. Eric noted that drought tolerant grass seed is on sale at the DPW. Progress is being made on getting a list of all irrigation owners.

No meetings are planned during the summer but that could change if there is a drought.

Adjournment at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Carney, Acting Secretary

